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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/824,912	04/15/2004	Kotaro Kashiwa	450100-05012	7331
7590 03/19/2008 FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP 745 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10151			EXAMINER CHIO, TAT CHI	
			ART UNIT 2621	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 03/19/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/824,912

Applicant(s)

KASHIWA ET AL.

Examiner

TAT CHI CHIO

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 18-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CDC)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 18-32 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 21 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakanishi et al. (5,488,389).

Consider claim 21, Nakanishi et al. teach a method of processing a composite video signal comprising a sequence of frames, each frame comprising an even field and an odd field, the method comprising: acquiring the composite video signal (2 of Fig. 11); and for an input frame of the composite video signal, inserting into a first output video signal a first frame based upon the even field of the input frame and inserting into a second output video signal a second frame based upon the odd field of the input frame (Fig. 13 and Fig. 14).

Consider claim 29, Nakanishi et al. teach an apparatus for processing video signals comprising: a video decomposition section (3, 4, 5a, and 5b of Fig. 11), which accepts an input composite video signal comprising a sequence of frames, each frame comprising an even field and an odd field (Fig. 13 and Fig. 14), inserts into a first output video signal a first frame derived from the even field of a frame of the composite video signal, and inserts into a second output video signal a second frame derived from the odd field of the frame of the composite video signal (Fig. 13 and Fig. 14).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 18-20 and 26-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Xu et al. (5,455,626) in view of Watanabe (6,002,835).

Consider claims 18 and 26, Xu et al. teach a method of creating a composite video signal, the method comprising: generating synchronization signal that comprises a vertical synchronization timing (col. 4, lines 60-66); acquiring a first video signal, synchronized according to the synchronization signal, the first video signal comprising a first sequence of frames, and each frame comprising an even field and an odd field (Fig. 3a); acquiring a second video signal, synchronized according to the synchronization signal, the second video signal comprising a second sequence of frames, and each frame comprising an even field and an odd field (Fig. 3a); inserting into the composite video signal a frame comprising the even field of the current frame of the first video signal and the odd field of the current frame of the second video signal (Fig. 3b, Fig. 4a and Fig. 4b, col. 5, line 65-col. 6, line 6, and col. 6, lines 26-37); but Xu et al. do not explicitly teach compressing the composite video signal.

Watanabe teaches compressing the composite video signal (Fig. 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to compress the composite video signal to save storage space.

Consider claims 19 and 27, Xu et al. teach the method comprising recording the compressed composite video signal to a recording medium (col. 7, lines 34-36).

Consider claim 20, Xu et al. teach the method comprising transmitting the compressed composite video signal (col. 3, lines 2-5).

Consider claim 28, Xu et al. teach the apparatus comprising: a first camera, coupled to the video composition section and configured to provide the first video signal; and a second camera, coupled to the video composition section and configured to provide the second video signal (Fig. 1 and col. 3, lines 55-57).

5. Claims 22, 24, 25, 31, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakanishi et al. (5,488,389) in view of Watanabe (6,002,835).

Consider claim 22, Nakanishi et al. teach all the limitations in claim 21 but do not explicitly teach compression has been applied to the composite video signal, the method comprising decompressing the compressed composite video signal.

Watanabe teaches the method comprising decompressing the compressed composite video signal (Fig. 34 of Fig. 4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to decompress the compressed video signal to reproduce the video signal on a display.

Consider claim 24, Watanabe teaches the method wherein acquiring the composite video signal comprises retrieving the video signal from a recording medium (Fig. 4 shows that the video signal is retrieved from a recording medium).

Consider claim 25, Watanabe teaches the method wherein acquiring the composite video signal comprises receiving a transmitted composite video signal (the

multiplexer 33 receives a transmitted composite video signal from the memory card reader 31 in Fig. 4).

Consider claim 31, Watanabe teaches the apparatus comprising a decompression section coupled to the video decomposition section, wherein the decompression section accepts an input compressed composite video signal and provides, uncompressed, the composite video signal input to the video decomposition section (34 of Fig. 4).

Consider claim 32, Watanabe teaches the apparatus comprising: a recording medium (2 of Fig. 4); and a reader coupled to the decompression section and configured to read from the recording medium, the reader acquiring the compressed composite video signal from the recording medium (31 of Fig. 4).

6. Claims 23 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakanishi et al. (5,488,389) in view of Mizuta (5,231,497).

Consider claims 23 and 30, Nakanishi et al. teach all the limitations in claim 21 but do not explicitly teach the method comprising using interpolation to supply an odd field to the first frame and an even field to the second frame.

Mizuta teaches using interpolation to supply an odd field to the first frame and an even field to the second frame (col. 4, lines 24-34). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use interpolation to supply the missing data in the frames.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TAT CHI CHIO whose telephone number is (571)272-9563. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM-6:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on (571)-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2621

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/T. C. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 2621

/Thai Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2621